THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) With a view to contain the deficit in the Oil Pool Account and to enable the Oil Companies to maintain uninterrupted supplies of petroleum products in the country, the Government announced a comprehensive package on September 1, 1997. To end the oil pool deficit, the Government had decided that part of the liabilities of the Oil Coordination Committee to the Oil Companies shall be cleared through issue of Special Government Bonds by making one time payment to the Oil Companies. Consequently, "10.5% Oil Companies (Non-Transferable) Special Government Bonds 2005" totaling to Rs. 12,984 crores were issued effective 02.03.98. Out of these bonds issued, an amount of Rs. 6382 crores has been sanctioned for redemption of Bonds. Thereafter, "on Account" payments of Rs. 781 crores have been made till 31.01.99.

(b) The company-wise position of bonds issued effective 02.03.98, sanction issued for redemption thereof and the "On Account" payments made after the latest issuance of Govt. Sanction for redemption of bonds is given hereunder:

Oil Companies	Bonds issued	Sanction issued for redemption of bonds	Balance amount of Bonds after sanctioned redemption	'On Account' payment made after latest sanction for redemption (from 16.11.98 to 31.1.1998)	Balance (as on 31.01.1999)
MRL	164	164	0	0	0
IOC	6478	4079	2399	457	1942
MRPL	1242	311	931	56	875
ONGC	3122	709	2413	136	2277
OIL	224	57	167	10	157
BPC	760	491	266	56	210
HPC	994	568	426	66	360
TOTAL	12984	6382	6602	781	5821

(c) and (d) The details of the duty paid by the companies during the current financial year will be known only after closing fo financial year *i.e.* after 31st March, 1999. The duties are paid by the oil companies to the exchequer and have no impact on the deficit in the Oil Pool Account.

Petrol Adulteration in the Capital

402. SHRI S.M. KRISHNA:
SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that adulteration racket of petrol, diesel and mobile oil is flourishing in the capital on a "large scale on individual basis' as reported in the Hindustran Times dated 8th February, 1999;

(b) if so, what action the police/ enforcement agencies concerned have taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Hindustan Petroleum and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. have so far been able to detect/trace the contents used in adulteration of petrol; and

(d) if so, with what result and whether Government propose to stop open sale of mobil oil, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (d) There have been no cases of adulteration detected by oil companies through underground hidden/unauthorised tanks, during transit in tankers and adulteration with solvents in Delhi. The company officials cooperate with law enforcing agencies and are in regular touch with State Govt. to check adulteration. Regular inspections/surprise checks of retail outlets are carried out by the officers of the oil marketing companies. Also special drives are being launched by the industry from time to time for checking malpractices including adulteration. With effect from 31.12.98, only pre-mixed fuel is being dispensed to two stroke vehicles as per directive of Supreme Court.

पांडेय नगर, रायबरेली के लिए रसोई गैस वितरक

403. **श्रीमती मालती शर्मा:** क्या पैट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या रायबरेली (उत्तर प्रदेश) में प्राकृतिक गैस का एक ही वितरक है और वह 70 कि०मी० के क्षेत्र में गैस की आपूर्ति करता है;

(ख) क्या रायबरेली जिले में पांडेय नगर के नगर निगम के संपूर्ण क्षेत्र में गैस का कोई वितरक नहीं है;

(ग) क्या पांडेय नगर के नगर निगम के संपूर्ण क्षेत्र को रायबरेली से ही गैस की आपूर्ति की जाती है जो 60 कि०मी० की दूरी पर स्थित है;

(घ) क्या सरकार रायबरेली के वितरक द्वारा गैस आपूर्ति की 60 कि०मी० की दूरी में कमी करने का विचार रखती है;

(ङ) क्या सरकार पांडेय नगर के नगर निगम के संपूर्ण क्षेत्र के लिए एक गैस-वितरक नियुक्त करने का विचार रखती है; और

(च) यदि हां, तो कब तक?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री संतोष कुमार गंगवार): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार रायबरेली में पांडेय नगर नगर निगम क्षेत्र के नाम से कोई क्षेत्र नहीं है।

(ग) से (च) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Purchase of hot plates from Gas Agencies

404. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently issued any orders for the purchase of hot plates from the gas agencies at the time of release of new gas connections;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have received complaints that Devi Anupama Gas Service, DDA Market-III, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi has refused to release new gas connection without hot plates;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) what action Government propose to take in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. As per existing guidelines, prospective customers are at liberty to procure the stoves/hotplates from any source at the time of availing new LPG connections from LPG distributors, including the LPG distributor provided such appliances are of approved make/type. Presently, LPG distributors are authorised to recover inspection charge from a prospective customer at the time of release of new LPG connection, in case the customer procures hotplates/stove from sources other than the distributor concerned.

(c) to (e) The Indian Oil Corporation has not received any complaint against M/s. Devi Anupama Gas Service for forced sale of hotplate during the last two years.